Scheme to open Secondary Schools

†3037. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any scheme to open new secondary schools for promoting education;

(b) if so, the number of schools of secondary level to be opened in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) Most of the secondary schools are within the purview of the State Governments concerned. The Central Government runs Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas and new schools under these two systems are opened as part of the ongoing process based on demand, fulfilment of requisite norms and availability of funds.

Setting up of New Kendriya Vidyalayas

3038. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up more Kendriya Vidyalayas in different parts of the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government could use Kendriya Vidyalayas for national integration;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to put in place a system where more Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened without declining educational standards in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(d) the steps proposed to expand education through Kendriya Vidyalaya system all over the country; and

(e) the number of new Kendriya Vidyalayas which would be opened in 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Government has not taken any final decision on opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Kendriya Vidyalayas have become an effective and vibrant tool for national integration, because of a common scheme of studies, uniform academic calendar, common medium of instructions and common ideals. Students from different States study together in Kendriya Vidyalayas. Events of national importance are also celebrated in Kendriya Vidyalayas on regular basis for promoting solidarity amongst students.

(c) and (d) Opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) is continuous process. They are opened from time to time following established norms and procedures while ensuring that there is no decline in educational standards irrespective of expansion.

(e) During the year 2005-06, two Kendriya Vidyalayas were opened in lieu of non functional/closed schools.

Drop-Out Rates

3039. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study about the rate of drop-outs in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Holenarsipur and Arkalgud in Hassan District of Karnataka tops in school drop-outs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Central Government to check increasing drop-outs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) Government has not conducted any independent study to identify the drop-out rates. Based on the information furnished by the State Governments, the data relating to drop-out rates from class 1—10 have been compiled for the year 2003-04. District-wise drop-out rates is not maintained in the Ministry.

(e) A multi-pronged approach has been adopted under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for reducing drop-out rates. One set of interventions relates to strengthening of primary and upper primary schools and improving the quality of education through improvement in school infrastructure, recruitment of additional teachers, regular training of teachers, etc. There